THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI SU. THIRUNAVUKKARASAR): (a) No, Sir. Computers and e-mail facilities have not been currently made available in post offices of the rural belts of Rajasthan.

(b) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

(c) Keeping in view the resources available, and the need for optimal utilisation of computers, every effort is being made to extend such facilities, in a phased manner, in all important post offices including those located in the rural areas of Rajasthan.

Dispute over telephone rates

†205. SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a dispute over telephone call rates has come up between public and private companies;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Government are unable to provide cheap telephone call rates under pressure from private companies; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN): (a) and (b) No, Sir. Public and private companies charge the subscribers for telephone call rates within the framework prescribed by Telecom Regulatory Authority of India under Telecom Regulatory Authority of India Act, 1997.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise in view of (c) above.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.